Personal Profile Essay

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**My parents never named me**

My parents are not from the same hometown. In fact, they grew up in different states entirely. My mom grew up in Idaho and my dad grew up in Colorado. My parents met in a math class at “Ricks” as they call it, it is more commonly known as BYU Idaho. Four years later my parents were married in Idaho Falls, Idaho. My parents were not able to have kids for a very long time after being married, it took them almost TEN YEARS for them to get pregnant with my oldest brother, Zachary, whose name means, “God Remembered”. Shortly after having Zac, my parents found out they were pregnant with my brother Hunter, and then me! After having three kids within about a three-year span, my parents were not able to have any more kids.  My parents never named me. In actuality, it was my grandmother that named me. My grandma was the most wonderful person I have ever known. She was always so kind, loving, caring, and accepting. She had the most beautiful bright blue eyes, and she always had to have her Chapstick and her lipstick. My grandma was never the type of person to tell others her opinion or what they “should” or “shouldn’t” do. Her love was unconditional. When my mom was pregnant with me, my parents went to Idaho to visit my grandma and grandpa. When grandma asked my mom what names they were thinking of naming me, my parents told her they were thinking of either Madison or Lauren. The story is told that Grandma just sat there in thought, then in her sweet, kind voice said, “You should name her Emily.” My grandma just said, “You should”!!!! So that was it! From that day forward, I was to be named Emily. As if it were fate, I was born on my grandma’s birthday.

**Where I am when I am not doing homework**

I have always had a huge love of the outdoors. I have had so many awesome opportunities to do some of the coolest things and to go I have been hiking in some of the coolest places. I have hiked through slot canyons, on top of huge sandstone fins, through dripping wet fern covered canyons, through rainforests, on ocean beaches, into a volcano, on cliffsides, through and along streams including one part where I had to swim through freezing glacier runoff water to get to a waterfall, and even through dark caves under tectonic plate fault lines. I have been horseback riding on the ocean beach, I have ridden Segways in cool historical sites, been ziplining on an island, been on a whaling boat, gone canoeing, paddle boarding, boating, wake surfing, shot plenty of arrows from a bow, rock climbing, shotgun shooting, downhill and cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, slacklining, scuba diving, snorkeling in a crater, kayaking, tubing, snowshoeing, and even been on many ferries. Over the years I have caught many animals including: salamanders, lizards, frogs, snakes, crabs, starfish, and even plenty of fish with my bare hands. In nature, I feel so peaceful and in place. One of the best feelings in the world is the ache after going on an outdoor adventure. I feel so blessed to live in Utah where we have the mountains so close to us!

**A day in the life of a High School Student**

I am currently a high school senior. I attend NUAMES early college high school. NUAMES is an acronym that stands for, Northern Utah Academy of Math, Engineering, and Science. We do not have our own campus or any of our own buildings. We are however based on the WSU Davis Campus on the third floor of D3. I have the amazing opportunity to take college classes that count as both high school and college credit so that by the time I graduate from high school, I will also graduate with my associates degree. This semester I am taking 16 credits of college classes from WSU. I only have one class from NUAMES my entire senior year which is seminary. I am in the presidency of two of the clubs at NUAMES. I am still involved at NUAMES when I have a little time. I am in two presidencies of clubs; I am the publicist for the NUAMES National Honor Society and the Secretary for Hope Squad. I am also on the high honor roll for my grade.

**My Future Plans**

After I graduate this year, I plan to get a job as a CNA. I got my CNA license this last summer, but because I am so busy with school, I do not have time to work at a job too. I will work all summer and save money. The next fall, I plan to go to WSU for a year to get my prerequisites done for the nursing program. After working as a CNA over the summer again, I hope to be able to get into Weber’s nursing program. After the three-year program, I will be a Registered Nurse and have a Bachelor's Degree. I hope to be able to continue going on outdoor adventures and I cannot wait to be able to travel and see many new things and make the most out of life!